

Attorney Docket No. 70301.56660

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: J. Schmidhuber
SERIAL NO.
FILED: Herewith
FOR: Combinatorial Weighing Apparatus

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above application as follows.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-13 and enter the following new claims.

--14. A combinatorial weighing apparatus for apparatus comprising:
a dispersing device for the distribution of products to be weighed;
a plurality of weighing containers; and
a plurality of supply troughs arranged alongside one another for feeding the
products from the dispersing device to the weighing containers,
each supply trough having a bottom with a first bottom face and a second
bottom face connected thereto along a first edge which point towards the dispersing
device, the first and second bottom faces being inclined to one another along the first
edge,

20. The combinatorial weighing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein the second side edge extends over a predetermined length and has a section that is bevelled towards the second bottom face.

21. The combinatorial weighing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein the first and second bottom form an included angle of about 150° to about 170°.

22. The combinatorial weighing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein the supply troughs are arranged around the dispersing device.

23. The combinatorial weighing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein an inclination of the supply troughs is adjustable in the longitudinal direction.

24. The combinatorial weighing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein a first end section at an end of the first bottom face facing away from the dispersing device is inclined relative to the first bottom face along a second edge running transversely to a longitudinal direction of the conveyor trough.

25. The combinatorial weighing apparatus according to Claim 24, wherein a second end section on an end of the second edge facing away from the dispersing device is inclined relative to the second bottom face along a third edge running transversely to a longitudinal direction of the conveyor trough.

26. The combinatorial weighing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein the first bottom face is substantially rectangular.--

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the first bottom face having a first side edge and the second bottom face being bounded laterally by the first edge and a second side edge which converge in the direction towards the dispersing device, and

the first side edge of each supply trough overlapping the second side edge of a neighboring supply trough.

15. The combinatorial weighing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein the second bottom face is arranged horizontally in a cross-section of the trough.

16. The combinatorial weighing apparatus according to Claim 14, characterized in that the first side edge is curved towards the bottom of the neighboring supply trough.

17. The combinatorial weighing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein the first bottom face has a first length a longitudinal direction of the supply trough which is greater than a second length of the second bottom face in the longitudinal direction.

18. The combinatorial weighing apparatus according to Claim 14, wherein a boundary wall at an end of the first bottom face facing away from the dispersing device extends transversely to the longitudinal direction of the supply trough.

19. The combinatorial weighing apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the second side edge has a third length in the longitudinal direction of the supply trough which is greater than the second length of the second bottom face in the longitudinal direction.

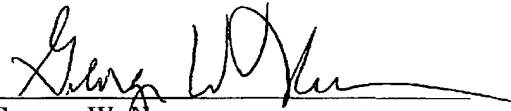
J. Schmidhuber
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Page 4 of 4

REMARKS

An early consideration and notice of allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 31 Oct. '01

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